

From the Editor

The fact that Southern Baptist campus ministry is "frankly denominational" affects every part of our work. This issue focuses on some aspects of our relationship to the denomination. In some ways, preparing this issue has been frustrating because so many persons we spoke to about "hot issues" felt that it would be inappropriate to put their views in print. We have chosen not to focus on particular conflicts but on more general topics which might be helpful to all campus ministers.

W. F. Howard, certainly the elder statesman of Southern Baptist student work, has contributed a historical paper explaining how the denomination got involved in campus ministry in the first place. Since the major area of tension for many campus ministers comes in relations with local churches, we have reprinted with comments a 1980 survey of pastors' attitudes toward BSU. We look forward to publishing results of a new survey in our spring issue. Base Design seeks to clarify the place of student ministry in the denomination. I have undertaken myself to explain this document which has been the source of much anxiety and covert activity. How to evaluate campus ministry is a perpetual issue between campus ministers and their supervisors at the local and state levels. Allan Burry, from the United Methodist unit analogous to NSM, has written a study paper on the subject which helps to focus on the choices we make in ministry which must be recognized by both campus ministers and denominational bodies.

Phil Briggs' paper on faith development should be considered an addendum to our last issue. His presentation at the annual meeting in Dallas in June 1985 was well-received and helpful.

Walter Wilson has replaced Jan Fuller (now in charge of our Atlanta programs) as book review editor. Special thanks go to Dwight Lyons who arranged for printing and mailing to be done in Louisville. The Publications Committee would welcome additional volunteers, particularly those from the West and Southwest. The theme for the spring issue will be "Campus Ministry and Vocation."